Docket No.: 20516 US (C038435/0111694)

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Tatsuo HOSHINO, et al.)	Examiner: Nashaat T. Nashed

Tatsuo HOSHINO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/727.855

Art Unit: 1652

Filed:

December 1, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF)

CAROTENOIDS AND BIOLOGICALLY **USEFUL MATERIALS THEREOF**

purpol

New York, New York July 19, 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 21, 2004, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely with an executed certificate of mailing, on or before July 21, 2004. 37 CFR \$1.8. No fee is believed to be due. If it is determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02 4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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09/727,855 July 19, 2004 April 21, 2004

For the reasons set forth above, entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the objections and rejections, and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mall in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 19, 2004.

Gonzalo Merino, Ph.D., Reg. No. 51,192

Respectfully submitted,

Gonzalo Merino, Ph.D.

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